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indicating said second video frame as a prediction reference frame for encoding said video frame having said lowest compression order number;

encoding said second set of video frames in INTER frame format in ascending order of compression order number.

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9. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising:

identifying a second indication that a further video frame should be encoded in said first compressed video frame format; and

for a group of frames including said first video frame and the frames occurring between the first video frame and the further video frame, defining said second video frame as the frame occurring substantially centrally within the group of frames.



- 16. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising associating with the compressed video sequence information concerning the intended playback order of the frames of the compressed video sequence.
- 17. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising associating with the compressed video sequence information concerning the intended playback time of the frames of the compressed video sequence.

31. (Amended) A computer program for operating a computer, comprising:

a first computer program for operating the computer as a video encoder; and

a second computer program for operating the computer as a video decoder,

wherein said first computer program for operating the computer as a video encoder encodes a sequence of video frames to form a compressed video sequence, said compressed video sequence comprising frames encoded in at least a first compressed video frame format and a second compressed video frame format, said first compressed video frame format being a non-temporally predicted format and said second compressed video frame format being a temporally predicted format,

wherein said first computer program comprises:

computer executable code for identifying a first indication associated with a first video frame that said first video frame should be encoded in said first compressed video frame format;

computer executable code for associating said first indication with a second video frame;

computer executable code for encoding said second video frame in said first compressed video frame format;

computer executable code for defining a first set of video frames comprising N video frames occurring prior to said second video frame;

A4 Contra computer executable code for encoding said first set of video frames in said second compressed video frame format;

computer executable code for defining a second set of video frames comprising M video frames occurring after said second video frame; and

computer executable code for encoding said second set of video frames in said second compressed video frame format,

wherein said second computer program for operating the computer as a video decoder decodes a compressed video sequence to form a sequence of decompressed video frames, said compressed video sequence comprising frames encoded in at least a first compressed video frame format and a second compressed video frame format, said first compressed video frame format being a non-temporally predicted format and said second compressed video frame format being a temporally predicted format,

wherein said second computer program comprises:

computer executable code for identifying a first indication associated with a first video frame that said first video frame is encoded in said first compressed video frame format;

computer executable code for decoding said first video frame;

computer executable code for receiving a first set of N frames in said second compressed video frame format for inclusion in said decompressed video sequence prior to said first video frame;